

Happy Holidays Issue

DAEMEN COLLEGE

ASCENT

The Campus Connection for Collegial News

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BookBinder Productions Proudly Presents



"FIRE & RAIN"

An Evening of

JAMES TAYLOR

Featuring Dave Binder

A Nostalgic Sojourn through 20 years of James Taylor's most memorable music.

Marian Library
Daemen College

December 5, 1992

7 pm

Wick Social Room

(sponsored by Student Association
& Booga Booga Beta)

This year marks Dave Binder's sixth annual concert at Daemen College. He is truly one of Daemen's favorite performers. If you've seen one of his concerts, we know you'll be back. If you haven't seen one, come find out what you've been missing!

Swinging into Christmas

by Patti Lane

Our first official meeting was held on October 21, 1992. From there, I witnessed the formation of an extremely dedicated and talented group of singers and musicians. The Daemen College Swing Choir has really come a long way since then! However, we haven't been without our problems. To begin with, we had a late start, no director, and no funding for music and props. Also, we've had difficulty with only two months to practice before the holiday season. Anybody who hears us perform would be amazed at how great we are sounding, and what a super program we've put together for Christmas, despite the various obstacles! Our group has remained strong, and will definitely play a big role in the Daemen Community.

Our debut performance of a holiday program will take place at a special Holiday Dinner on **Tuesday, December 15, at 4:30 pm**, in the Wick Center Dining Room. The whole Daemen community is welcome to attend. A specially reduced dinner price of **only \$3.50** is being offered by Daemen Dining Service to commuter students and staff. Wow, that's great entertainment and a wonderful dinner, all at a super low price!

For those of you interested in joining our choir or finding out more about us, we meet every Wednesday night in Wick Center at 9:00 pm. If you would be interested in having us perform for various functions, please leave a message for the choir at Wick Desk, and someone will be in touch with you.

Our 1992-93 officers are:

President	Patti Lane
Vice President	Melissa Guebert
Secretary	Alison Kidney
Treasurer	Kelly Bedell

A special thank you to all choir members, Chris Malik, and Dr. Larry Wright, along with the rest of you for supporting music at Daemen!

Don't forget:

**Come to our first concert!
Tuesday, December 15,
at 4:30 pm in Wick Dining Room
During the Holiday Dinner**



Community Service Office Receives Volunteerism Award

In November, Key Bank of New York honored three recipients with the **Key Bank of New York President's Award for Volunteerism**. The awards program was initiated several months ago to encourage community service and recognize those who have voluntarily dedicated time and efforts to the well being of the community. The bi-annual awards are to be given out to a Key Bank employee, a community member and a local organization or corporation.

1991-1992 academic year, the department volunteered a total of 4,540 hours for over 125 charitable organizations."

The Community Service Office shares the honor of this award with all the dedicated Daemen volunteers who have donated their time and efforts in helping the needy.



The Daemen College Community Service Department was the first recipient of the organizational award. They were cited as being, "A unique program that provides Daemen students the opportunity to volunteer their services to help the needy, the sick, the elderly and the less fortunate in the Western New York area. During the

The Holiday Season: Time for opening gifts & opening minds

by Patti Lane

Early this past Spring, my boyfriend, Sean, came to me quite depressed. You see, he was forced to get his hair cut short; the same well groomed hair that was only a little past shoulder length, and the same hair that had taken a couple of years to grow to that length. A junior in college, he was participating in the Summer Accounting Internship Program at his school. It is unfortunate that in today's society, "...long-haired freaky people need not apply."

"...long-haired freaky people need not apply."

Imagine how the world would be if society kept an open mind and waited to judge people until getting to know them first. (Wishful thinking, right?) For those of you who don't know me, I am five feet tall (with my sneakers on), I like to wear clothes from K-Mart, and I dye my hair blond. People often treat me like a child because of my youthful appearance, and I am seldomly taken seriously. At this moment, many of you are coming up with a mental picture, and from this picture some of you would already make judgements about me. Now you understand what I'm trying to make you aware of.

From racism, sexism, and censorship, to harassment and intolerance of people who are different, this topic is unfortunately in our lives on a daily basis. Perhaps you can remember making



a comment about a handicapped person, or you've seen the crimes committed in the city and assumed that it was only done by blacks or other specific groups of people. Jealousy can also blind people from keeping an open mind. Everyone is human and everyone will make mistakes. I enjoy a good ethnic joke as much as the next guy; we just have to be careful not to cross the fine line between funny and hurtful or obscene.

Since we are so close to the Holiday Season, just remember to try and keep an open mind. Think about our society, and take a good look at yourself. If we want to change the closed-minded views much of society shares, there is nobody better to start with than yourself. Let people dress and behave "differently", and let people express themselves through what they do. Let people be people. Please keep that in mind, and enjoy the Holiday Season!

Growing from High School into College

by Carol Ellen Kowalik

College is so different from high school. I remember always having to wear the right clothes or use the right school supplies. There were so many cliques and everyone acted very "catty". I think I missed out on some valuable friendships because for four years (or maybe even more if you count middle school) I based who I talked to and who I picked on by who my "friends" thought were acceptable or not. Now with those people out of my life, I feel more free to make friends with many types of people. There are those occasional times when I hesitate to talk to someone because my "group" in high school wouldn't approve. I usually find myself going ahead and talking to this person anyway, because now there is no one there to stop me.

This year I found out who really counts when it comes to deciding on who to pick for friends; yourself. I have to trust myself. I know of at least two people who are good friends to me this year that my group in high school would have found completely unacceptable

I think these groups have their good points and their bad points. They were always, or at least most of the time, there when I needed them. At the same time they took away some of my individuality. I remember having ideas and having "friends" saying, "Oh there goes Carol dreaming again," or comments like, "what have you been smoking?" They either could not or refused to get it through their heads that I do think differently, and that yes, I am

a dreamer. I had my best friend (we've been friends since I was four) say to me the other day: "I can't figure out how you think, half the time you make no sense." I would think that after 15 years of friendship, she would be able to, at the very least, follow my way of thinking. I don't always think with my head, I often times use my heart.

"I don't always think with my head, I often times use my heart."

I'm glad college isn't as "cliquey" as high school. I love the diversity of friendships I now have. I no longer have the reservations of "how will I look if I am friends with that person". I now make friends with a person because I like them and we have shared interests.

I leave you with this thought. Try to make as many new friends as you can in college because never again will you have the social setting or the diversity in culture and backgrounds that you have now.



CAREERFEST '93

Don't listen to what everyone is saying about the employment market. Come and explore careers and opportunities available in Buffalo at Careerfest '93 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5 at the Buffalo Convention Center.

Careerfest, sponsored by the Greater Buffalo Chamber, local businesses and colleges, is an all-day informational exchange, providing students and corporations an opportunity to learn about each other.

Andy Wetmore of IBM, chairperson for the event, said Careerfest provides the opportunity for students to learn about various occupations and industries in the Buffalo area.

"It is very important for students to have an understanding of career options available in Western New York. It is equally important for employers to meet with the future work force to exchange information with a student to foster their professional growth."

Nearly 100 companies representing business, education, health care, human services, manufacturing, and a variety of other fields will participate in Careerfest '93. A student can expect to learn about occupations as an engineer, public relations specialist, teacher, financial planner, social worker and many more! Discover the growing occupations and what positions will be available in the workforce 2000.

Careerfest is targeted for all Western New York students attending local and national colleges and universities. Admission is free for students. For further information contact the CO-OP/CDC Department in Canavan Hall.

Daemen College's Sixth Annual Film Series Great American Directors

continues

December 7, 1992

at 7:30 pm
in the new

Schenck Hall Auditorium
featuring the film

Lady from Shanghai

Director: Orson Welles

**open to the public
no admission charge**

The sisters of Lambda Chi Iota

invite you to a

TGIF Weekend Warmup

Friday, December 11
from 5 to 8 pm
in the
Wick Center SnackBar

**look for details
in Wick Center**



Once again, the Student Association's **BOOBAR Halloween Costume Party** was a resounding success. Several hundred students came to dance and party the night away in Wick Social Room on Halloween night. Featured at the party was a dance lighting display

by Indigo Productions, music by Duffy Brown, food and refreshments by Daemen Dining Service, and cash prizes for the best male, female, and group in costume.

Pictured here are the winners of the best group in costume.

Is Recycling Worth the Hassle?

by Kristen Burgess

In this age of "political correctness", recycling is probably the most "correct" thing to do. Earth Day is widely celebrated, businesses boast that they recycle, and even New York State has recently passed mandatory recycling laws. With all this hype, recycling must be the best thing to do, right? Maybe not.

Americans produce an average of 179.6 million tons of garbage per year, and I've contributed my fair share to that amount. I'll admit that I'm not the most "environmentally conscious" person I know; I use a lot of paper, especially with my computer, and I always use plastic drinking straws. I've tried to get into recycling, but I question its value. Is it really helpful, or is it just the fad of the Nineties?

"Is it really helpful, or is it just the fad of the Nineties?"

I have often considered switching to recycled paper, but it is just not worth it. recycled paper is inferior in quality to "virgin" (non-recycled) paper. Recycled paper is very thin, and it feels cheap. But it is not cheap. A ream of recycled paper (500 sheets) from one paper manufacturer costs \$10.75; on the other hand, a ream of virgin paper costs only \$7.95. This is a savings of \$2.80. I refuse to pay more for inferior paper. If the paper manufacturers want to encourage recycled paper, they should lower its cost and make it more economical.

New York State passed legislation requiring all towns and cities to have mandatory recycling by September 1992. But in the Town of Lancaster, recycling has been postponed until at least December, because they did not order the plastic recycling bins in time. So much for "mandatory".

The Town of Cheektowaga began recycling last year. They did not provide reusable plastic bins; instead, all

recycled goods must be placed in plastic bags. Doesn't this defeat the purpose of recycling? In order to keep tin and glass out of the landfills, they're filling them with plastic bags!

Some environmental measures are just not convenient. Before glass bottles can be recycled, they must be thoroughly washed, and the labels must be soaked off. It is really a bother to carefully wash something before you throw it out. The same is true with tin cans. In addition to being washed, most towns require that the tops and bottoms be removed, and they be crushed. Unless you put them in the dishwasher, washing tin cans by hand is not recommended. You must be extremely careful, or else you will cut your hand on the sharp edges. Is it really worth the time and effort to prepare these items for the garbage?

I'm not completely attacking recycling—I'm just saying it needs to be used in moderation. There are many little things that can be done to save the environment, and they're cost effective too. Used laser printer and copier toner cartridges are expensive and very harmful to the environment. Getting them refilled is only two thirds the cost of a new one. So this is savings.

Newspapers are easy to recycle. Instead of throwing them in the garbage, they can be placed in a bin and put out on garbage day. This is not too difficult.

One environmental measure that I did this year was to buy the bright pink 12 oz. plastic cup from Daemen Dining Service in the Snackbar. It is refillable, so there is no need to waste styrofoam or paper cups. Plus, it is a very handy cup. It keeps your hot drinks hot and your cold drinks cold, and it doesn't spill while you're driving. Also, once you buy this large cup, all your refills are only the price of a small drink. It's a small start, but it's my little way of saving the environment, while still saving my sanity.

Campus Recycling Efforts Continue

Most of us now know that mother nature is not as invincible as we once thought. We realize that our land does have a limit, and that the resources we draw from will not be available forever. We now understand that we cannot take these things for granted anymore, and that as a country, as a community, and as individuals there is a need to recycle. Communities everywhere are participating in massive recycling. We, as a college community, will begin a mandatory recycling program next semester. Daemen College currently recycles white paper, and in January of 1993, Daemen will be expanding its recycling program to include other recyclable items. Look for further details as the program develops!!

Below are some interesting statistics for the holiday season.

CHRISTMAS WASTE

Number of gifts wrapped by average household	30
Christmas gift wrap market	\$500 million
Rolls/sheets of wrapping paper sold in 1989	28,497,464
Package tags and bows sold in 1989	16,826,362
Greeting cards (boxed and single) sold in 1989	372,430,684
Number of Christmas trees cut in 1989	35,200,000
Success rate of tree-recycling programs	38%

SOURCE: *Garbage*, November/December 1990, p.63, from Hallmark cards, Inc., A.C. Neilsen, from Supermarkets with over \$4 million in annual sales; National Christmas Association; and *Resource Recycling* survey of tree recycling practices.

If you are interested in being intensely involved with the recycling program next semester, drop me a note in my mailbox (Karen Lafferty R.A.). I will be sure to get in touch with you.

Aftermath

I sit here in the darkness
It's three a.m.
The night is closing in
I've never felt this alone,
This is isolated

I can hear the forest,
Crackling like thunder
As trees bow to the weight of the ice
Trees that have survived
Wind, rain, fire, and time
Succumb to the cold hands of God

Even if I had somewhere to go,
I could not get there
The roads are impassable
Electrical wires are coiled like snakes
Tree limbs lie like discarded weapons
Of some mighty battle of titans
These devices conspire to keep me here
Alone and afraid

I face the realization
That I could die here
And no one would know,
Perhaps not for days
This house becomes sinister
Like a prison cell,
Or a tomb...

When the dawn comes
I will look back and laugh
At my foolishness and fear
I will tell my friends how bravely
I weathered this storm
But in my heart I'll know...

I'll know how I sat here like a child
Afraid to sleep, afraid to move
I'll know how I shivered in the cold
And how this man,
When face to face
With the power of God's destruction
Wept,
And prayed for dawn

by Leslie Drews

ASCEMENT Poetry Corner

Have a good one; see you soon!

by Leslie Drews

Winter has come again to Western New York. The trees are bare, the north wind blows ever colder, and snow has replaced the green grass of summer. The winter gives the earth a chance to rest and ready itself for the inevitable rebirth of spring.

But as important as winter is to our planet, it is perhaps more special to college students. With the season comes the chance to visit friends and family, something that happens far too infrequently during the semester (especially for resident students).

Also comes the opportunity to awake on a Monday morning without sweating because there's a paper due in two days, one we should have started three weeks ago. We won't have to plan two weeks in advance because we have

a Psych. test, a Lit. term paper, and a Math exam due in one 6 hour period (we all know how fun that is). Once again, our weekends are our own. OK, some of us have to work, but it seems a small price to pay for freedom from academic stress.

By this time, we're all more than a little burned out from the strain on our bodies, pocketbooks, and brains. So let's all enjoy our well-deserved break. By the time we get back, we'll be refreshed, Spring will be just around the corner, and the Bills will be in their third straight Super bowl (I had to get that one in).

So have a safe and happy break; we'll see you all soon.

Happy Holidays!

But What About Africa?

by Patrick Mweheire

My theory is that the more people know, the more they care. So this is a short, censored version of Africa's social-economic quagmire, for both those who care and those who don't.



It is common knowledge that the paths to development are different for different countries depending upon their histories, cultures and politics, but that for the poorest countries the paths are well hidden. No where are the paths to development more obscured than in Africa.

Some may ask, well what happens to the millions of dollars worth of aid the United States sends to Africa? This is what happens: a considerable portion of the money supports well-educated, well-paid officials and consultants from prosperous countries, otherwise called "expatriates". These officials live like viceroys, with budgets for chauffeurs, gardeners, swimming pools, servants and tennis courts. Although they reside only a few miles away from the slums, these up-scale missionaries behind their high walls and barred windows could not be more separated, physically and psychologically from the people they have come to help. Now doesn't it make you feel better to know how your 'aid' is spent?

"These children are born to be unpaid laborers and not to be cuddled and kissed."

Others may wonder why the poorest continent on earth has an average family of eight children? Large families mean more hands or labor to work the fields. These children are born to be unpaid laborers and not to be cuddled and kissed. And also in a continent where half the babies are likely to die before the age of five, families tend to produce eight or nine children as insurance.

A friend of mine once asked, "well, doesn't Africa grow or make any thing that bring them revenues?" Africa is greatly dependent on exports of their traditional crops; mainly coffee, tea and sisal. Unfortunately for her, consumers have a choice between Africa's AA coffee and the 'bio-coffee' beans made in the laboratories in the United States. Laboratory produced vanilla recently put 70,000 vanilla bean farmers in Madagascar out of jobs. If poor countries are expected to survive by exporting what they grow or make, the rich countries must open their markets!

Today, however, the world's gaze is shifting away from Africa. Eastern Europe is seen as the patient most likely to recover because most of the help is now focused on them. Washington and the Soviet Union have clearly lost interest in pushing bases on the continent. It was used as a cold war battlefield with no benefits to be gained whatsoever.

Well, what the hell do you want us to do? I don't know either. All I know is that ignoring poor people does not make them disappear. They make their presence felt- as participants in civil wars, as carriers of disease, as refugees, as despoilers of the environment and so on. Africa needs more support from the rich countries, not less, but how, where, and why are perhaps the most fateful political questions of the 90's.

This is not to romanticize life in Africa before the white man came. Whether Africa is better or worse off than before it was 'discovered' would make a good oxford union debate, but the deed is done.

INTRODUCING Daemen's Lady Warriors



The Ascent would like to wish the Lady Warriors and their coach, Dave Skolan, the best of luck in this year's basketball season. We encourage everyone in the Daemen community to come out and support both the men's and ladies' teams. Our Warriors provide exciting sports entertainment at a great price--free admission!



VIRTUALITY

Rick Williams is the student pictured here on the VIRTUALITY machine in Wick Lobby on November 6. Rick totalled a whopping 16 kills while playing *Dactyl Nightmare*. Rick's computer skills, a quick hand, and a cool head undoubtedly were a key to his record score. The 2nd highest score of the day went to Eric Chui, with 13 kills.

Great shootin' guys!

Community Service Office TID BITS

As indicated in last month's *Ascent*, the "Sleep Out" event for the homeless and the hungry was a great success. Several students involved in the Human Services Club (Social Work Club), SMODY (Sophisticated Men Obligated to Directing Youth), and others, slept out overnight in an effort to help raise awareness of the problems faced by the homeless and the hungry in our community.

The Community Service Department would like to thank the Daemen Community who responded and reacted to the needs of the victims of Hurricane Andrew. All donations raised were given to the Red Cross to be delivered to the victims of Hurricane Andrew.

1993 SENIOR WEEK

Even though Senior Week and Graduation are a whole semester away, the Senior Class President, Peter Yates, is hard at work getting plans together with the Student Activities Office. Listed here is a preliminary schedule of events for Senior Week, so you can get an idea of what's happening that week on and around campus.

In mid-March the Student Activities Office will be sending a comprehensive informational mailer to all graduating seniors at their local address, and a second copy to the families of all graduating seniors at the senior's permanent home address (PT majors on affiliations will receive 2 mailings to their permanent home address). The mailer will include information on:

- commencement at Kleinhans Music Hall
- on-campus accommodations for families
- senior week schedule
- meal schedule & champagne brunch registration form
- map of how to get from Daemen College to Kleinhans Music Hall
- graduation attendance registration form

Preliminary Senior Week Schedule

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, May 11 | Alumni Senior Reception
& Student Life Awards Ceremony |
| Wednesday, May 12 | - Picnic in back of Wick Center
- Trip to Romanello's Restaurant |
| Thursday, May 13 | Party at KC's Tavern |
| Friday, May 14 | - Graduation Rehearsal (mandatory)
2 pm Wick Dining Room
- Baccalaureate Ceremony/Reception |
| Saturday, May 15 | - Champagne Brunch
- Commencement
2 pm Kleinhans Music Hall |